



News from
Councilmember Todd Gloria

City of San Diego ▪ District Three

NEWS RELEASE

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City Council Committee Makes History... Easier

Actions will Help Preserve Historic Resources in San Diego

SAN DIEGO, CA (September 25, 2009) – The San Diego City Council Land Use and Housing Committee, chaired by Councilmember Todd Gloria, took action at its meeting yesterday on several items aimed at improving historic preservation efforts.

The Land Use and Housing Committee strengthened protections for potentially historic resources by closing loopholes that had allowed some such structures to be demolished without any community review.

- The Committee directed City staff to amend the Historic Resources Guide to ensure that no process can be used to bypass input from qualified community members. Staff was also directed to extend the review period by five days to allow adequate time for comment.
- The Committee also directed staff to develop methods to post demolition permit applications on the City's website and to develop a potential policy regarding fines for the unpermitted destruction of historic resources.

“San Diego is rich with historic structures and elements, and I believe that closing these loopholes will help to preserve our valuable resources,” said Councilmember Gloria.

The Committee also discussed a proposal being developed by City staff to create Historic Conservation Areas, which would protect the character of areas with distinct physical characteristics due their form, character and visual qualities. Historic Conservation Areas in other cities often overlap with historic areas, and are considered a tool to protect established neighborhoods from incongruent development. This issue will be considered in the coming months after Committee comments and concerns are incorporated.

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